

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

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R 111207Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3345

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0824

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS, PL

SUBJECT: US-POLISH RELATIONS: ICCS AND VIETNAM

REF: A. SAIGON 1155, B. WARSAW 578, C. WARSAW 682,

D. SAIGON 1391, E. SAIGON 1580

1. AT THE END OF MY FIRST MEETING FEBRUARY 10 WITH VICE FOREIGN MINISTER SPASOWSKI FOLLOWING HIS RETURN TO WARSAW, I HANDED HIM A COPY OF AN ARTICLE FROM TRYBUNA LUDU JANUARY 27 (REF B), WHICH CITED THE PRESENCE IN SOUTH VIETNAM OF "25,000 AMERICAN MILITARY ADVISERS IN DISGUISE" AS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY THE PARIS AGREEMENTS ARE NOT BEING REALIZED. I SAID THAT THIS STATEMENT, ALTHOUGH IT WAS CAREFULLY ASCRIBED TO THE "PRG," TOGETHER WITH A REFERENCE IN THE ARTICLE TO THE END OF "DIRECT US AGGRESSION" HAD APPEARED IN THE PRESTIGIOUS ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PZPR AND MADE ME WONDER WHETHER THE POLISH AUTHORITIES WERE BEING ACCURATELY

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INFORMED BY THE POLISH ICCS DELEGATION.

2. I TURNED THEN TO XUAN LOC, MAKING THE POINTS OUTLINED IN REF E. I SAID THAT, IN VIEW OF THESE FACTS, WE HAD FOUND THE POLISH EDITORIALS ON THE XUAN LOC WITHDRAWAL QUITE INACCURATE (REF C). THE DANGER TO THE ICCS TEAM HAD COME FROM NVA ARTILLERY FIRE, NOT FROM THE UNDERSTANDABLY INDIGNANT INHABITANTS OF XUAN LOC, JUST AS, WITH REFERENCE TO THE TRYBUNA LUDU JANUARY 27 ARTICLE, THE PRINCIPAL REASON WHY THE PARIS AGREEMENTS WERE NOT BEING RELIZED STEMMED FROM THE 100,000-STRONG NVA IN SOUTH VIETNAM, NOT FROM "SAIGON AGGRESSION" OR OTHER CAUSES. IF THE ICCS TEAMS WOULD INVESTIGATE INCIDENTS OF MILITARY ACTION, REGARDLESS OF WHICH SIDE IS BELIEVED TO BE THE INSTIGATOR, THERE WOULD BE LITTLE OCCASION FOR EPISODES SUCH AS THAT AT XUAN LOC.

3. IN RESONSE, SPASOWSKI SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE ENTIRE ICCS TEAM HAD WITHDRAWN FROM XUAN LOC, NOT JUST THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS. I SAID I THOUGHT THAT THE INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS HAD REMAINED THERE. IN RESPONSE TO HIS REPEATED STATEMENT OF BELIEF THAT ALL FOUR PARTIES HAD LEFT, I SAID THAT, WHATEVER MAY HAVE HAPPENED AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN CONTINGENTS--AND I HAD NO KNOWLEDGE THAT THERE HAD BEEN A SUBSEQUENT IRANIAN AND INDONESIAN WITHDRAWAL--THE CENTRAL FACT WAS THAT ANY THREAT TO THE ICCS TEAM HAD COME, NOT FROM THE UNARMED INHABITANTS OF XUAN LOC, BUT FROM NVA SHELLING. THAT WAS QUITE A DIFFERENCE FROM THE CONTENTION OF THE ARTICLES IN TRYBUNA LUDU AND ZYCIE WARSZAWY FEBRUARY 4. SPASOWSKI SAID HE WOULD CHECK ON HIS RECOLLECTION ABOUT THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE ENTIRE FOUR-PARTY TEAM AND LET ME KNOW.

4. WITH REGARD TO THE GRYBUNA LUDU JANUARY 27 ARTICLE, SPASOWSKI SAID THAT HE WAS OPPOSED TO THE VOICING OF "SPECULATION" ON THESE SUBJECTS. I SAID I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER THE POLISH GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THERE WERE 25,000 AMERICAN MILITARY ADVISERS

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IN SOUTH VIETNAM. SPASOWSKI SAID HE DID NOT THINK SO. HE EXPRESSED HIS REGRET THAT WE WERE CONTINUING TO HAVE TO DISCUSS VIETNAM. I SAID I DID NOT EXPECT THAT WE COULD REACH AGREEMENT ON OUR POINTS OF VIEW ABOUT WHAT WAS GOING ON IN SOUT VIETNAM, BUT I DID HOPE THAT THE WITHDRAWAL FROM XUAN LOC, WHATEVER ITS CAUSES, WAS AN ISOLATED EVENT, SINCE WE CONSIDERED THAT THE PRSENCE OF THE ICCS COULD STILL HAVE A

DETERRENT EFFECT--AN EFFECT THAT WOULD BE MUCH GREATER
IF THE ICCS WOULD PERFORM ITS PROPER INVESTIGATIVE
FUNCTION.
DAVIES

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